



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/037,684	01/04/2002	Drue A. Reeves	COMP:0231 P01-3582	8296

7590 04/18/2005

Intellectual Property Administration
Legal Department, M/S 35
P.O. Box 272400
Ft. Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

MOFIZ, APU M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2165

DATE MAILED: 04/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/037,684	Applicant(s) REEVES ET AL.	
	Examiner Apu M Mofiz	Art Unit 2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

h

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendment submitted on January 24, 2005 with respect to claims 1-20 and newly added claims 21-25 has been acknowledged.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection in this Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tao Zhou, Exploring Netscape's Directory Server 3.0, April 1998, pages 1-11 (and Zhou hereinafter) in view of Microsoft, Active Directory Overview, posted June 30, 1999, pages 1-11 (and Microsoft hereinafter).

As to claims 1,10,21 and 22, Zhou teaches a method for remote control for a networked application (i.e., "Figure 1 shows an example of how you might set up Directory server in an NT network." ... "If you use Netscape SuiteSpot server, such as Messaging Server or and LDAP-enabled application, the application server can authenticate users through Directory Server for application access. Directory Server also lets an LDAP client, such as Netscape's Directory Server Gateway, update and search LDAP directory information." ... "LDAP-enabled applications no longer need separate user databases. They can simply authenticate users through the LDAP directory and store and look for user or application profiles in the directory." ... "A DIT often mirrors a

company's organizational hierarchy. For example, Figure 2 shows a directory tree for Acme, a fictitious company consisting of three organizational units (ous): Administration, Sales, and Products. When designing a DIT, you categorize directory entries into classes of objects. As Figure 2 shows, common object classes include organization (o), ou, and person (common name—cn). The object class specifies the required and optional attributes of the objects in that category and the rules governing how you can use the object when building the DIT structure.” ...

“With this service, you can perform two-way synchronization of users, groups, and passwords between the LDAP directory and the NT domain directory.”

Fig. 1:

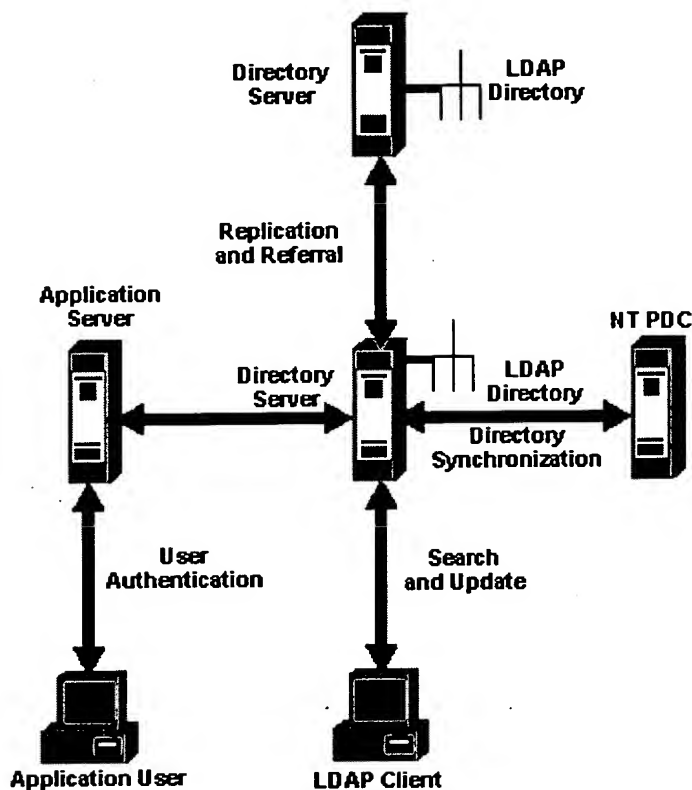
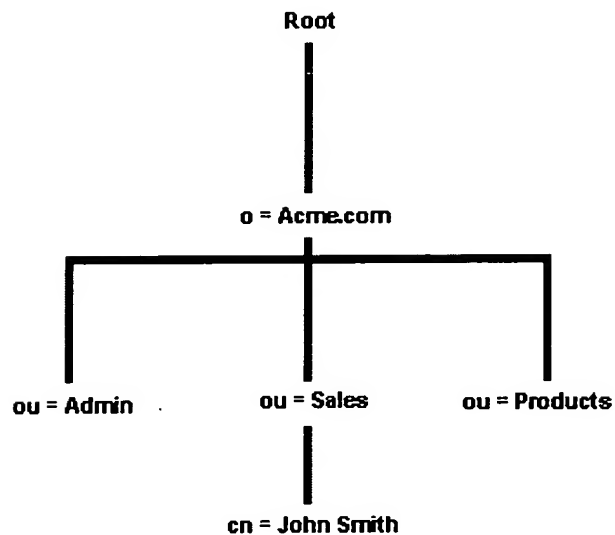


Fig. 2:

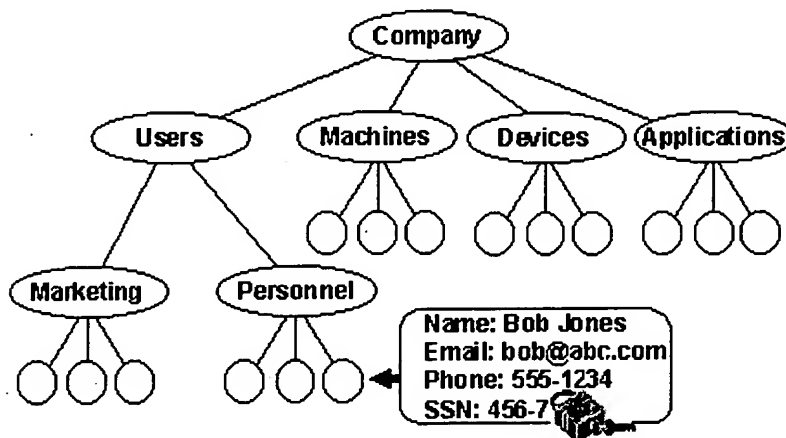


The preceding text excerpts and Figure 1 and Figure 2 clearly indicate that the directory server contains a hierarchical directory structure DIT, which contains an organizational hierarchy. The hierarchy may contain a plurality of persons including a person John Smith and all of the attributes associated with that cn. The hierarchical directory structure would contain how John Smith object is used within the company i.e., What John Smith can do within the organization e.g., what application John Smith has permission to access etc. The application receives user authentication data e.g., login data e.g., password for an application session and redirects to the directory server to be authenticated before giving permission to the user. The hierarchical tree can contain various cn's under products ou i.e., organization unit. The various cns may be a various device products e.g., a networked printer. All of the attributes that indicates rules governing who and how the product object can be used. Zhou does not explicitly teach or merely silent or simply does not give an example that the products are devices like printers. Although the application can be a networked printing application, which is a subset of applications. In that case, the user can control or configure our every day printing jobs from a networked printer and the prior art teaches all of the limitations of claim 1. But to be specific, Examiner states that Zhou does not teach providing and controlling access to the device control feature in the directory server.) (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10), comprising the acts of: receiving a request for a session with the networked application from a remote interface (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10); redirecting the request from the networked

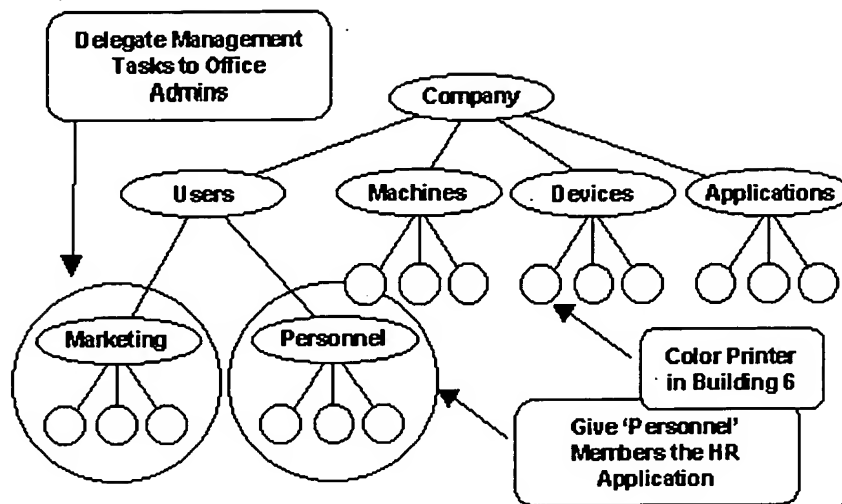
application to a directory server comprising user logins and access rights for a plurality of authorized users (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10);

Zhou does not explicitly teach providing and controlling access to the device control feature in the directory server.

Microsoft teaches providing and controlling access to the device control feature in the directory server (i.e., “A directory service provides a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people. It provides a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources.” ... “Active Directory acts as the central authority for network security, letting the operating system readily verify a user’s identity and control his or her access to network resources.” ... “Active Directory uses objects to represent network resources such as users, groups, machines, devices, and applications. It uses containers to represent organizations, such as the marketing department, or collections of related objects, such as printers.” ...



As illustrated in Figure 2 above, object- and attribute-level security lets administrators precisely control access to information stored in the directory.” ... “The Active Directory lets administrators assign access privileges for each attribute of the object, as well as for the entire object.” ... “Reduces trips to the desktop. Automatically distributes software to users based on their role in the company, reducing or eliminating multiple trips that system administrators need to make for software installation and configuration.”



“Active Directory also makes it easier for everyone to use the network. For example, users can directly query the directory for network resources such as printers. Since the directory can store attributes about objects, it can store the location and the capabilities of an organization’s printers and expose these attributes as search criteria so the user can search for “printers in building 6 that print color” directly from the “Start” menu in Windows. What’s more, the directory can refer the desktop operating system to all the configuration information it needs to set up a new printer-so when users find the printer they want, they can use it right way.” ... “It improves password security and management.” ... “It ensures desktop functionality. By locking-down desktop configurations and preventing access to specific client machine operations, such as software installation or registry editing, based on the role of the end user.” The preceding text excerpts and the figures clearly indicate that the directory service provides and controls access to the device control feature based on user’s role. Users are identified by their login name and password. For example, users can configure remotely networked printer device, install software etc. via the Directory Server. The notification, commands to configure printer devices or install software have to be transmitted to the device being configured or installed.) (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8)

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant’s invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include providing and controlling access to the device control feature in the directory server with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based

entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claims 2, 8 and 15, Zhou teaches transmitting a command to the networked application device via the directory server (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10).

Zhou does not explicitly teach transmitting a command based on the device control feature to the networked device via the directory server.

Microsoft teaches transmitting a command based on the device control feature to the networked device via the directory server (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include transmitting a command based on the device control feature to the networked device via the directory server with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claim 3, Zhou teaches a hierarchical directory structure based on organizational groups of the plurality of authorized users (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10).

As to claims 4 and 12, Zhou does not teach that the act of providing the device control feature comprises the act of facilitating remote configuration of the networked device.

Microsoft teaches that the act of providing the device control feature comprises the act of facilitating remote configuration of the networked device (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include that the act of providing the device control feature comprises the act of facilitating remote configuration of the networked device with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claims 5 and 13, Zhou does not explicitly teach that the act of providing the device control feature comprises the act of facilitating remote control of a management module disposed on the networked device.

Microsoft teaches that the act of providing the device control feature comprises the act of facilitating remote control of a management module disposed on the networked device (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include that the act of providing the device control feature comprises the act of facilitating remote control of a management module disposed on the networked device with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claims 6 and 14, Zhou does not explicitly teach that the act of controlling access to the device control feature comprises the act of associating authorized user groups of the plurality of authorized users to the networked device.

Microsoft teaches that the act of controlling access to the device control feature comprises the act of associating authorized user groups of the plurality of authorized users to the networked device (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include that the act of controlling access to the device control feature comprises the act of associating authorized user groups of the plurality of authorized users to the networked device with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to

provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claim 7, Zhou teaches the act of providing an interface for the plurality of authorized users to interact with the directory Server (i.e., "Directory Server Manager. With this powerful administrative tool, you can manage all Directory Server components, including LDAP directory database, the access control list (ACL), replication, the schema, and all directory server settings. Directory Server Manager is a Web based tool, but only a server administrator can connect to its interface.") (page 3; page 8).

As to claim 9, Zhou does not explicitly teach the act of providing an interface for the networked device to retrieve a control task generated by the device control feature.

Microsoft teaches the act of providing an interface for the networked device to retrieve a control task generated by the device control feature (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8; page 9).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include the act of providing an interface for the networked device to retrieve a control task generated by the device control feature with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claims 11 and 19, Zhou teaches the act of facilitating interaction comprises the act of providing a hierarchical directory structure based on groups of the plurality of authorized users (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10).

Zhou does not explicitly teach each of the groups having at least one of the plurality of networked devices.

Microsoft teaches each of the groups having at least one of the plurality of networked devices (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include that each of the groups having at least one of the plurality of networked devices with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claim 16, Zhou does not teach the act of transmitting the control task comprises the act of responding to a task request from the desired device.

Microsoft teaches the act of transmitting the control task comprises the act of responding to a task request from the desired device (i.e., a device needing software installation requires response from the directory server) (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to

include the act of transmitting the control task comprises the act of responding to a task request from the desired device with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claim 17, Zhou teaches a system of remote control for a plurality of a networked application (i.e., “Figure 1 shows an example of how you might set up **Directory server** in an NT network.” ... “If you use Netscape SuiteSpot server, such as Messaging Server or and LDAP-enabled application, the application server can authenticate users through **Directory Server** for application access. Directory Server also lets an LDAP client, such as Netscape’s Directory Server Gateway, update and search LDAP directory information.” ... “LDAP-enabled applications no longer need separate user databases. They can simply authenticate users through the LDAP directory and store and look for user or application profiles in the directory.” ... “A DIT often mirrors a company’s organizational hierarchy. For example, Figure 2 shows a directory tree for Acme, a fictitious company consisting of three organizational units (ous): Administration, Sales, and Products. When designing a DIT, you categorize directory entries into classes of objects. As Figure 2 shows, common object classes include organization (o), ou, and person (common name—cn). The object class specifies the required and optional attributes of the objects in that category and the rules governing how you can use the object when building the DIT structure.” ... “With this service, you can perform two-way synchronization of users, groups, and passwords between the LDAP directory and the NT domain directory.”

Fig. 1:

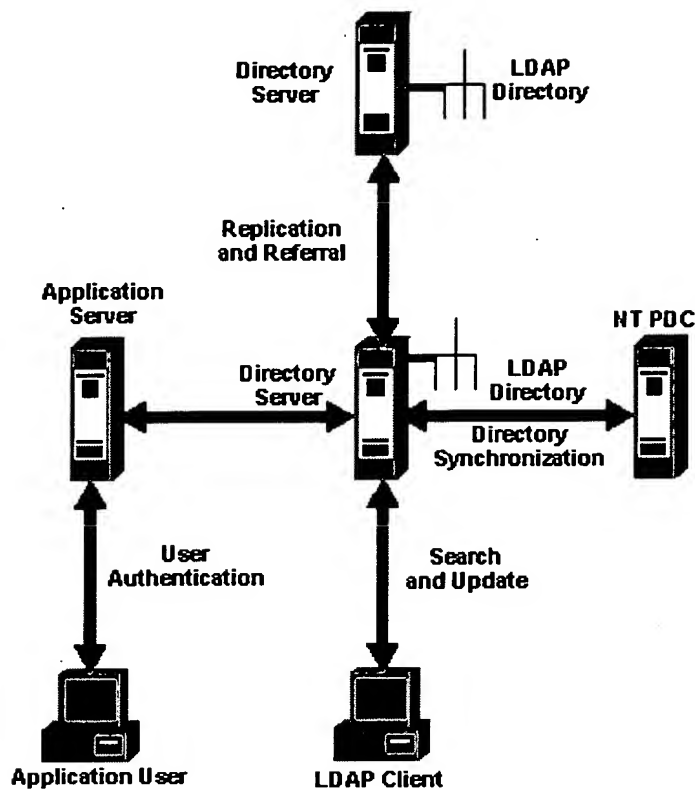
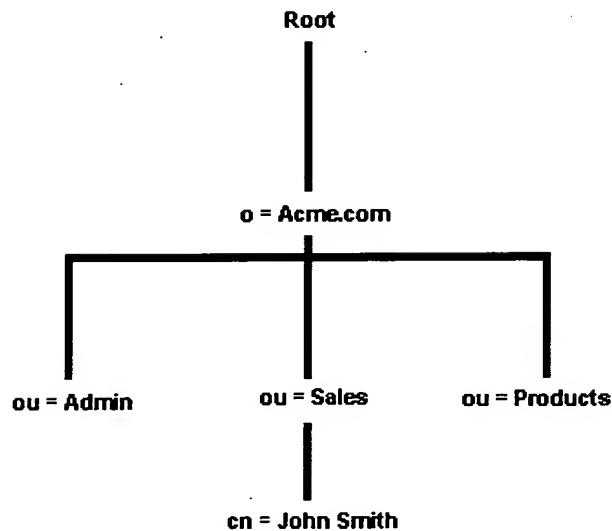


Fig. 2:



The preceding text excerpts and Figure 1 and Figure 2 clearly indicate that the **directory server** contains a hierarchical directory structure DIT, which contains an organizational hierarchy. The hierarchy may contain a plurality of persons including a person John Smith and all of the attributes associated with that cn. The hierarchical

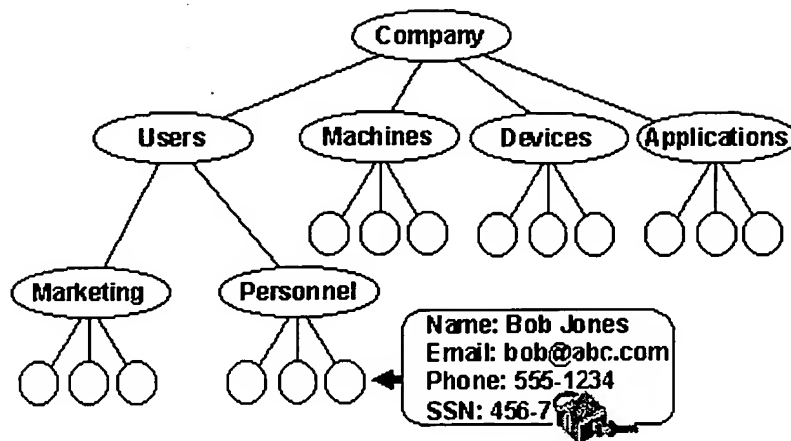
Art Unit: 2165

directory structure would contain how John Smith object is used within the company i.e., What John Smith can do within the organization e.g., what application John Smith has permission to access etc. The application receives user authentication data e.g., login data e.g., password for an application session and redirects to the directory server to be authenticated before giving permission to the user. The hierarchical tree can contain various cn's under products ou i.e., organization unit. The various cns may be a various device products e.g., a networked printer. All of the attributes that indicates rules governing who and how the product object can be used. Therefore, there is communication between a client (i.e. a remote console), the directory server and the plurality of networked applications at the application server. The applications communicate to each other through application interface or api. Zhou does not explicitly teach or merely silent or simply does not give an example that the products are devices like printers. Although the application can be a networked printing application, which is a subset of applications. In that case, the user can control or configure our every day printing jobs from a networked printer and the prior art teaches all of the limitations of claim 1. But to be specific, Examiner states that Zhou does not teach providing and controlling access to the device control feature in the directory server.) (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10) , comprising: a directory server (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10), comprising: a user database comprising user login data for each of a plurality of authorized users (i.e., the LDAP directory database; The Applicant as well as Zhou does not teach separate databases for the resource, users etc. The same database incorporates all of these data. The examiner could not find separate databases in the specification.) (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10); a resource database comprising identification data for the plurality of networked application (i.e., the LDAP directory database; The Applicant as well as Zhou does not teach separate databases for the resource, users etc. The same database incorporates all of these data. The examiner could not find separate databases in the specification.) (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10); a resource access control database comprising access rights to the networked applications for each of the plurality of authorized users, wherein the access rights comprise a first right for a first user to setup a control task and a second right for a second user to modify the control task (i.e., the LDAP directory database; The Applicant as well as

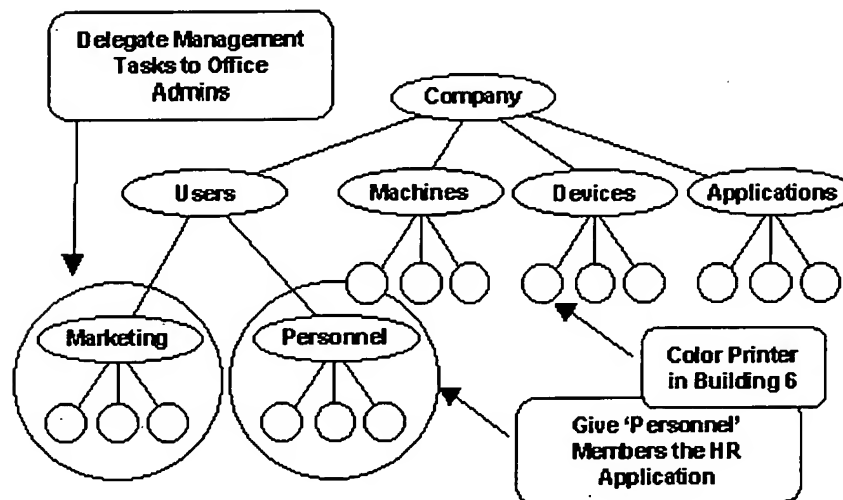
Zhou does not teach separate databases for the resource, users etc. The same database incorporates all of these data. The examiner could not find separate databases in the specification. In the database, various users fall under different cn. For example one user is admin therefore has administration authority and can setup or modify application. Other user may have different role and therefore has different access permission to use the application.) (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10); a directory structure (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10) for the resource database (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10); and an interface for the directory structure (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10) adapted to facilitate interaction between the directory server, a remote console, and the plurality of networked applications (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10).

Zhou does not explicitly teach a system of remote control for a plurality of a networked devices; a resource data storage comprising identification data for the plurality of networked devices; a device management system for the plurality of networked devices; and an interface for the directory structure adapted to facilitate interaction between the directory server, a remote console, and the plurality of networked devices.

Microsoft teaches a system of remote control for a plurality of a networked devices (i.e., "A directory service provides a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people. It provides a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources." ... "Active Directory acts as the central authority for network security, letting the operating system readily verify a user's identity and control his or her access to network resources." ... "Active Directory uses objects to represent network resources such as users, groups, machines, devices, and applications. It uses containers to represent organizations, such as the marketing department, or collections of related objects, such as printers." ...



As illustrated in Figure 2 above, object- and attribute-level security lets administrators precisely control access to information stored in the directory.” ... “The Active Directory lets administrators assign access privileges for each attribute of the object, as well as for the entire object.” ... “Reduces trips to the desktop. Automatically distributes software to users based on their role in the company, reducing or eliminating multiple trips that system administrators need to make for software installation and configuration.”



“Active Directory also makes it easier for everyone to use the network. For example, users can directly query the directory for network resources such as printers. Since the directory can store attributes about objects, it can store the location and the capabilities of an organization’s printers and expose these attributes as search criteria so the user can search for “printers in building 6 that print color” directly from the “Start” menu in Windows. What’s more, the directory can refer the desktop operating system to all the configuration information it needs to set up a new printer-so when users find the printer they want, they can use it right way.” ... “It improves password security and management.” ... “It ensures desktop functionality. By locking-down desktop configurations and preventing access to specific client machine operations, such as software installation or registry editing, based on the role of the end user.” The preceding text excerpts and the figures clearly indicate that the directory service provides and controls access to the device control feature based on user’s role. Users are identified by their login name and password. For example, users can configure remotely networked printer device, install software etc. via the Directory Server. The notification, commands to configure printer devices or install software have to be transmitted to the device being configured or installed. The remote client console application, the directory server application and the networked device e.g., printer communicate to each other using application interface as any other applications communicate.) (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8); a resource data storage comprising identification data for the plurality of networked devices (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8; a device management system for the plurality of networked devices (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8; and an interface for the directory structure adapted to facilitate interaction between the directory server, a remote console, and the plurality of networked devices (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant’s invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include a system of remote control for a plurality of a networked devices; a resource data storage comprising identification data for the plurality of networked devices; a

device management system for the plurality of networked devices; and an interface for the directory structure adapted to facilitate interaction between the directory server, a remote console, and the plurality of networked devices with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claim 18, Zhou teaches resource access control database containing access rights (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10).

Zhou does not explicitly teach that the access rights of the resource access control data storage comprise device rights and restrictions to manage each of the plurality of networked devices with the device management system.

Microsoft teaches that the access rights of the resource access control data storage comprise device rights and restrictions to manage each of the plurality of networked devices with the device management system (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include that the access rights of the resource access control data storage comprise device rights and restrictions to manage each of the plurality of networked devices with the device management system with the motivation to provide a place to store

Art Unit: 2165

information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claim 19, Zhou teaches that the directory structure comprises a plurality of organizational groups associated with at least one of the plurality of networked applications (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10).

Zhou does not explicitly teach that the directory structure comprises a plurality of organizational groups associated with at least one of the plurality of networked devices.

Microsoft teaches that the directory structure comprises a plurality of organizational groups associated with at least one of the plurality of networked devices (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include that the directory structure comprises a plurality of organizational groups associated with at least one of the plurality of networked devices with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claim 20, Zhou does not explicitly teach that the device management system comprises a plurality of control functions for each of the plurality of networked devices.

Microsoft teaches that the device management system comprises a plurality of control functions for each of the plurality of networked devices (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include that the device management system comprises a plurality of control functions for each of the plurality of networked devices with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

As to claims 23 and 24, Zhou teaches that granting the right to control the task comprises enabling setup and modification of the task (page 2; page 3; page 7; page 9; page 10).

As to claim 25 Zhou does not explicitly teach that the task comprises installing software.

Microsoft teaches that the task comprises installing software (page 1; page 2; page 4; page 5 ; page 6 ; page 7 ; page 8).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Zhou with the teachings of Microsoft to include that the task comprises installing software with the motivation to provide a place to store information about network-based entities, such as applications, files, printers, and people and also to provide a consistent way to name, describe, locate, access, manage, and secure information about these individual resources (Microsoft, page 1).

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

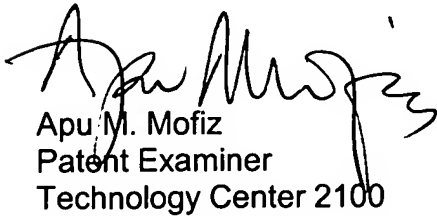
Points of Contact

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Apu M. Mofiz whose telephone number is (571) 272-4080. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Thursday 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Art Unit: 2165

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached at (571) 272-4083. The fax numbers for the group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.



Apu M. Mofiz
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100

April 12, 2005